

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SOFIA 00338 241225Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /071 W

-----015917 250716Z /13

R 241130Z FEB 78

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4177

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDKAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USLO PEKING

CONFIDENTIAL SOFIA 0338

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BU, CH, XH

SUBJECT: BULGARIAN-CHINESE RELATIONS

1. EMBASSY HAS HAD RELATIVELY LITTLE INFORMATION ON BULGARIAN-CHINESE RELATIONS. DEPT MAY WISH TO SEEK OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT FURTHER WITH AMBASSADOR GRIGOROV, GIVEN HIS EXPERTISE IN THAT AREA AND RECENT SERVICE AS AMBASSADOR IN PEKING. MEANWHILE, FOLLOWING ITEMS OF POSSIBLE INTEREST ARE NOTED.

2. CHINESE AMBASSADOR SOFIA, MENG YUEH, DEPARTED HERE ON OCT 16 AND HAS NOT RETURNED. CHINESE CHARGE BAI CHOOU MIAN RECENTLY TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT THERE IS AT THE PRESENT TIME NO PLAN FOR MENG YUEH'S RETURN.

3. ON OCCASION SOVIET ARMED FORCES DAY RECEPTION, FEB 23, CHINESE CHARGE TOOK THE INITIATIVE FOR AN EXTENDED

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SOFIA 00338 241225Z

CONVERSATION WITH THE AMBASSAODR. HE WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN BULGARIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS (A SUBJECT WHICH HE HAD SOMETIME EARLIER ALSO RAISED WITH THE DCM), BUT ALSO MADE SOME COMMENTS ON BULGARIAN-CHINESE RELATIONS. HE CHARACTERIZED CHINESE-BULGARIAN RELATIONS AS "BAD", AND WITHOUT PROSPECT FOR EARLY IMPROVEMENT. HE RELATED THIS DIRECTLY TO THE STATE OF SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS, AND

INDICATED THAT CHINESE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE CONTACTS IN BULGARIA, AND ELSEWHERE IN EASTERN EUROPE WITH COUNTRIES CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE SOVIET UNION, HAD NOT BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL. (SEE 77 MOSCOW 17607 ALSO.) PRESUMABLY HIS CHARACTERIZATION OF THE EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES INVOLVED WAS A FORMULATION INTENDED TO NOT COVER ROMANIA, AS WELL AS YUGOSLAVIA. HE DID NOT MENTION SPECIFICS EXCEPT TO INDICATE, IN CONTRAST TO THE RECENT SUCCESSFUL PAPAZOV VISIT TO THE US, AN ABORTIVE CHINESE EFFORT TO DEVELOP SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE CONTACTS BETWEEN CHINA AND BULGARIA.

4. OCCASIONAL QUERIES TO SENIOR BULGARIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS IN RECENT MONTHS ON BULGARIAN-CHINESE RELATIONS HAVE ELICITED NOTHING BEYOND GENERAL STATEMENTS THAT SUCH RELATIONS WERE SATISFACTORY, BUT NOT PARTICULARLY GOOD. IT IS CLEARLY A SUBJECT ON WHICH THE BULGARIANS HAVE NOTHING THEY WISH TO SAY TO US.

GARTHOFF

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 feb 1978
Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SOFIA00338
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780087-0747
Format: TEL
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780216/aaaaanad.tel
Line Count: 80
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 92bd38d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3484960
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BULGARIAN-CHINESE RELATIONS
TAGS: PEPR, BU, CH, XH
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/92bd38d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014